

NOTES & NEWS

Trematodes in Chilean Fissurellid Molluscs

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MOLLUSCS ARE CLASSICALLY described as intermediate hosts for trematodes. Larval trematodes have been found in a number of gastropod species. In spite of this general statement, one of the authors found adult trematodes in the gonads of *Fissurella crassa* Lamarck, 1822 in January 1976. After this discovery, we investigated the other large-sized *Fissurella* species living on northern Chilean coasts and we found these trematodes in the gonads of all of them.

We have collected specimens of 8 species of *Fissurella* from several localities in northern Chile, situated between 20°16'S, 70°09'W and 20°41'S, 70°11'W, from January 1976 until September 1979. The animals examined varied in shell length from 25.3 mm to 111.2 mm. The results of this study are summarized in Table 1. Samples of trema-

Table 1

Number of analyzed animals of each species
 of *Fissurella* and percentage of infected specimens.

Species	N	% infected animals
<i>Fissurella</i>		
<i>bridgesii</i> Reeve, 1849	35	71.43
<i>costata</i> Lesson, 1830	29	27.58
<i>crassa</i> Lamarck, 1822	136	13.97
<i>cumingi</i> Reeve, 1849	353	64.87
<i>latimarginata</i> Sowerby, 1835	46	54.34
<i>limbata</i> Sowerby, 1835	36	47.22
<i>maxima</i> Sowerby, 1835	231	96.97
<i>pulchra</i> Sowerby, 1835	138	77.53
TOTAL	1004	

todes from each species of *Fissurella* were examined. With the kind assistance of Dr. J. B. Jones of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, New Zealand, they were identified as digenetic trematodes belonging to the family Fellodistomidae and to the genus *Proctoeces* Odhner, 1911.

The effect of parasitization on the reproduction of the hosts is now being studied in our laboratories.

The importance of the present report is to make known the fact that gastropod molluscs can be hosts to adult digenetic trematodes. It is, thus, evident, that not only trematode larvae may be present in molluscs.

Fissurella species are economically important in Chile because they are eaten by people. As far as we know, the trematodes mentioned above do not affect man; thus, their presence is not dangerous for man. Nevertheless, it should be noted that only the foot of the fissurellids is eaten; the viscera are always discarded.

ERRATA

Dr. Howard M. Feder has requested that we call the attention of our readers to the following errors which escaped the proof readers:

page 182, in the first paragraph of "Materials & Methods" change January 1 to January 20; May 7 to May 18 (both 1973); and January 20, 1974 to January 26. In Figures 3 and 4 on pp. 185 and 186, respectively, the numbers in parentheses below months refer to dates; numbers in parentheses below boxes represent numbers of clams.

New Rate Schedules

At its regular meeting on October 17, 1979, the Executive Board of the Society, after a careful evaluation of the financial situation, came to the conclusion that an adjustment in the subscription and dues schedules could no longer be avoided. This necessity was underscored by the fact that the volume-year 1978/1979, in spite of several generous donations received and stringent economizing, brought in effect a deficit of over \$9000.00. Consequently, it was decided to increase the membership dues for members residing in the U.S.A. to \$18.50; subscription rates for addresses in the U.S.A. are increased to \$37.50; in both cases a charge of \$1.50 for postage must be added.